

REMARKS

Claims 1-6 are pending in the above-identified application. In the Office Action of August 21, 2003, the Examiner made the following dispositions:

- 1., 3.) Rejected Claims 1 and 2 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by *Fukui et al.* (US 5,108,873).
- 2., 4) Rejected Claims 1 and 2 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Sato et al.* (US 4,656,121).
- 5.) Rejected Claims 1 and 3 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Sato et al.* (JP 03-000291).
- 6.) Rejected Claims 1 and 6 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over either *Kobayashi et al.* (JP 10-337957) or *Morishima et al.* (US 6,225,024) in view of *Morimoto et al.* (US 4,670,345) and *Sato et al.* (US 4,656,121).
- 7.) Rejected Claims 1 and 3 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by JP 07-133437.
- 8.) Rejected Claims 1,4, and 5 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Cumpston et al.* (US 6,322,931).

Applicants address the Examiner's dispositions below. Claims 1-6 have been amended to read more clearly. No new matter has been added.

- 1., 3.) Rejection of Claims 1 and 2 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being Anticipated by *Fukui*:

Claims 1 and 2 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by *Fukui*. Applicants respectfully disagree. As amended, claim 1 discloses a write once optical recording medium comprising:

- (1) a recording layer on a supporting body, and

- (2) a light transmitting protective layer on said recording layer,
wherein,
- (3) said light transmitting protective layer transmits a laser beam of a 380 to 450 nm wavelength,
- (4) said laser beam records and reproduces signals in said recording layer,
- (5) said wavelength providing the peak optical absorption coefficient of said recording layer is defined to be λ_{\max} , and
- (6) said λ_{\max} is less than or equal to 370 nm.

Regardless of what else *Fukui* might disclose, *Fukui* does not disclose or suggest a wavelength that provides the peak optical absorption coefficient of a recording layer and is defined to be λ_{\max} . Further, *Fukui* does not disclose or suggest a wavelength where λ_{\max} is less than or equal to 370 nm. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 is patentable over the cited art and is allowable.

Claim 2 depends directly or indirectly from claim 1, and is therefore allowable for at least the same reasons that claim 1 is allowable.

No new matter has been added, as this amendment is supported by the specification as originally filed. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit the rejection has been overcome and request that it be withdrawn.

2., 4.) Rejection of Claims 1 and 2 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being Unpatentable over *Sato*:

Claims 1 and 2 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Sato*. Applicants respectfully disagree.

As amended, claim 1 discloses a write once optical recording medium comprising:

- (1) a recording layer on a supporting body, and
- (2) a light transmitting protective layer on said recording layer,
wherein,
- (3) said light transmitting protective layer transmits a laser beam of a 380 to 450 nm wavelength,

- (4) said laser beam records and reproduces signals in said recording layer,
- (5) said wavelength providing the peak optical absorption coefficient of said recording layer is defined to be λ_{\max} , and
- (6) said λ_{\max} is less than or equal to 370 nm.

Sato does not disclose or suggest a recording layer on a supporting body, and a light transmitting protective layer on said recording layer, wherein said light transmitting protective layer transmits a laser beam of 380 to 450 nm wavelength, said laser beam records and reproduces signals in said recording layer, said wavelength providing the peak optical absorption coefficient of said recording layer is defined to be λ_{\max} , and said λ_{\max} is less than or equal to 370 nm. Rather, *Sato* discloses a semi-conductor laser with a wavelength of 750-850 nm as the laser light source. (See *Sato* col. 20, lines 3-5).

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 is patentable over the cited art and is allowable.

Claim 2 depends directly or indirectly from claim 1, and is therefore is allowable for at least the same reasons that claim 1 is allowable.

No new matter has been added, as this amendment is supported by the specification as originally filed. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit the rejection has been overcome and request that it be withdrawn.

5.) Rejection of Claims 1 and 3 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being Unpatentable over *Sato* (JP 03-000291):

Claims 1 and 3 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Sato* (JP 03-000291). Applicants respectfully disagree.

Sato (JP 03-000291) does not disclose or suggest a recording layer on a supporting body, and a light transmitting protective layer on said recording layer, wherein said light transmitting protective layer transmits a laser beam of 380 to 450 nm wavelength, said laser beam records and reproduces signals in said recording layer, said wavelength providing the peak optical absorption coefficient of said recording layer is defined to be λ_{\max} , and said λ_{\max} is less than or equal to 370 nm. Rather, it appears that *Sato* discloses a semi-conductor laser with a wavelength of 790 nm

as the laser light source. Should the Examiner require a translation, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' counsel. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 is patentable over the cited art and is allowable.

Claim 3 depends directly or indirectly from claim 1, and is therefore allowable for at least the same reasons that claim 1 is allowable.

No new matter has been added, as this amendment is supported by the specification as originally filed. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit the rejection has been overcome and request that it be withdrawn.

6.) Rejection of Claims 1 and 6 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being Unpatentable over either *Kobayashi* or *Morishima* in view of *Morimoto* and *Sato*:

Claims 1 and 6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over either *Kobayashi* or *Morishima* in view of *Morimoto* and *Sato*. Applicants respectfully disagree.

Kobayashi does not disclose or suggest a recording layer on a supporting body, and a light transmitting protective layer on said recording layer, wherein said light transmitting protective layer transmits a laser beam of 380 to 450 nm wavelength, said laser beam records and reproduces signals in said recording layer, said wavelength providing the peak optical absorption coefficient of said recording layer is defined to be λ_{\max} , and said λ_{\max} is less than or equal to 370 nm. Further, *Kobayashi* does not disclose or suggest in any way the use of aryl groups on the recording layer. Rather, *Kobayashi* describes the use of aryl groups applied on a silver light reflective film layer. (See *Kobayashi* abstract).

Likewise, regardless of what else *Morishima* might disclose, *Morishima* does not disclose or suggest a wavelength that provides the peak optical absorption coefficient of a recording layer and is defined to be λ_{\max} . Further, *Morishima* does not disclose or suggest a wavelength where λ_{\max} is less than or equal to 370 nm. Rather, *Morishima* discloses a semiconductor laser beam with an oscillation wavelength of 600-700 nm. (See *Morishima* col. 38, lines 63-65).

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 is patentable over the cited art and is allowable.

Claim 6 depends directly or indirectly from claim 1, and is therefore allowable for at least the same reasons that claim 1 is allowable.

No new matter has been added, as this amendment is supported by the specification as originally filed. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit the rejection has been overcome and request that it be withdrawn.

7.) Rejection of Claims 1 and 3 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being Anticipated by JP 07-133437:

Claims 1 and 3 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by JP 07-133437. Applicants respectfully disagree.

JP 07-133437 does not disclose or suggest a recording layer on a supporting body, and a light transmitting protective layer on said recording layer, wherein said light transmitting protective layer transmits a laser beam of 380 to 450 nm wavelength, said laser beam records and reproduces signals in said recording layer, said wavelength providing the peak optical absorption coefficient of said recording layer is defined to be λ_{\max} , and said λ_{\max} is less than or equal to 370 nm. Rather, JP 07-133437 discloses a semi-conductor laser beam with an oscillation wavelength of 830 nm. (See JP-0133437, paragraph 163). Further, JP-0133437 discloses the use of infrared-absorption compounds in its optical recording medium, (See JP-0133437, paragraph 28), which is not taught in Applicants' invention.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 is patentable over the cited art and is allowable.

Claim 2 depends directly or indirectly from claim 1, and is therefore allowable for at least the same reasons that claim 1 is allowable.

No new matter has been added, as this amendment is supported by the specification as originally filed. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit the rejection has been overcome and request that it be withdrawn.

8.) Rejection of Claims 1,4, and 5 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being Unpatentable over *Cumpston*:

Claims 1, 4, and 5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Cumpston*. Applicants respectfully disagree.

Cumpston does not disclose or suggest a recording layer on a supporting body, and a light transmitting protective layer on said recording layer, wherein said light transmitting protective layer transmits a laser beam of 380 to 450 nm wavelength, said laser beam records and reproduces signals in said recording layer, said wavelength providing the peak optical absorption coefficient of said recording layer is defined to be λ_{\max} , and said λ_{\max} is less than or equal to 370 nm.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 is patentable over the cited art and is allowable.

Claims 4 and 5 depend directly or indirectly from claim 1, and are therefore allowable for at least the same reasons that claim 1 is allowable.

No new matter has been added, as this amendment is supported by the specification as originally filed. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit the rejection has been overcome and request that it be withdrawn.

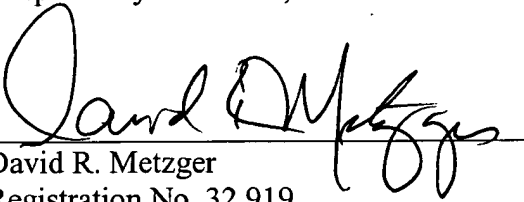
CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that Claims 1-6 are clearly allowable over the cited prior art, and respectfully request early and favorable notification to that effect.

Respectfully submitted,

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By: _____



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